South Dakota Wireless Conference

Traditional Providers Entering the Wireless Market

Mark Benton, GM/CEO
Midstate Communication
Kimball, SD

Should be called:

Re

Traditional Providers ^ Entering the Wireless Market

South Dakota ILEC History

- Commnet Wireless purchase of ILEC interest
- •Formation of Airwave Wireless to purchase PCS Spectrum
- •SWS, LLC formed to build wireless product in South Dakota



Wireless Entry Experience

 Been to the alter twice with National Carriers

- Consortium still pursuing options
- Biggest issue, lack of population



Why Branch Out?

- Customer Demand, desire hometown provider
- Compliment existing offerings
- Stickier



Future.....

Rural LEC's in wireless
 Build in traditional territory
 Augment FTTH

Other'sNationwide Footprint

Can both coexist?

Answer...

Yes

•Rural LEC's Rural Focus



National Carriers National Focus